

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-118. (previously canceled)

1 119. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~);

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~), lacking its associated signal peptide; or

DD (c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);~~

(d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209962,

wherein, said polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

2 120. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim ~~39~~<sup>119</sup> having at least 85% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~);

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~), lacking its associated signal peptide; or

(c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);~~

(d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~

(e)(c) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209962,

wherein, said polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

3 121. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim <sup>119</sup>39 having at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or

(c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);~~

(d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209962,

wherein, said polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

4 122. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim <sup>119</sup>39 having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or

(c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);~~

(d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209962,

wherein, said polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

5 123. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim ~~39~~<sup>114</sup> having at least 99% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~);

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~), lacking its associated signal peptide, *or*

(c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);~~

(d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209962,

wherein, said polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

6 124. (currently amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~);

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~), lacking its associated signal peptide; *or*

(c) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270);~~

(d) ~~the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270), lacking its associated signal peptide; or~~

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209962;

wherein, said polypeptide induces chondrocyte redifferentiation.

7 125. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim ~~124~~<sup>6</sup> comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 shown in Figure 188 (~~SEQ ID NO: 270~~).

<sup>8</sup> 126. (currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of Claim <sup>6</sup> 124 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 270 ~~shown in Figure 188 (SEQ ID NO: 270),~~ lacking its associated signal peptide.

127-128. (canceled)

<sup>9</sup> 129. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of Claim <sup>6</sup> 124 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209962.

<sup>10</sup> 130. (currently amended) A chimeric polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to Claim <sup>6</sup> 124 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

<sup>11</sup> 131. (previously presented) The chimeric polypeptide of Claim <sup>10</sup> 130, wherein said heterologous polypeptide is an epitope tag or an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.